

Butterflies
Delanie Fehlau • Age 12
Farmers Branch, TX

www.get-to-know.org



Baby Racoon
Alexandra Helmstetler • Age 9
Corpus Christi, TX

### 2015

The deer walks to the stream.

Looks around, naught is found,

Bends down to drink, while the tigress

slinks

Silently, hunting for prey.

She pounces, she lands

She has eaten for the day

### **Tigress**

Emily Russell, Age 10 Fort Worth, TX



# January





**Rabbit Hop** Emily Garcia, Age 10 Bandera, TX

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		S M T W T S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	S M T W T S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	New Year's Day	2	3
4 0	5	6	7 Orthodox Christmas	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Orthodox New Year	15	16  Martin Luther King Day	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Tall, smooth, grass stems,

Brushing my ankles.

A lake of lily pads,

With jewels of dew.

An almost blossomed lily,

Catching sunlight.

The sweet songs of birds,

Fill the air with melody.

I smile.

This is nature

### Nature

Abbey Fossati, Age 11 Friendswood, TX







**Texas State Park's blue skies** Dalton Mason, Age 11 Kilgore, TX

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 29 30 31

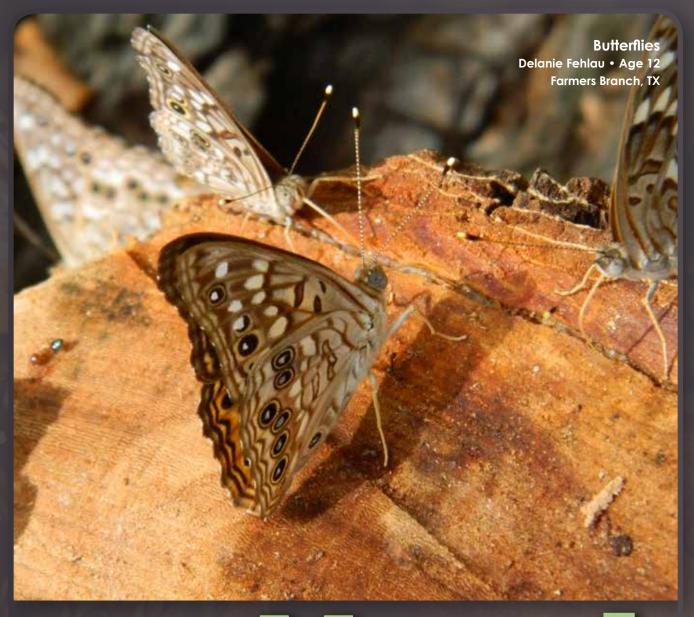
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	World Wetlands Day Groundhog Day	3 0	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13  Great Backyard Bird Count Begins	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 Washington's Birthday	17	18 •	19 Chinese New Year	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
JANUARY	MARCH					



The coyote hoots, the owl howls,

I love to feel the breeze blowing through
my hair and the cicadas singing in the air,
The morning light kisses the wildflowers as
they dance to and fro in the wind.

McKinney Poetry Slam Austin, TX



March





My Colorful Day at the Beach Alyssa Hall, Age 11 Malokoff, TX

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 0	6	7
Great American Cleanup begins				Purim		
Baylight Savings	9	10	11	12	13	14
Time begins						
National Wildlife Week Begins	16	17	18	19	20 •	21
	00			0.0		
22 World Water Day	23	24	25	26	27	28 Earth Hour 8:30pm - 9:30pm
29 Palm Sunday	30	31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	S M T W T F S S 4 S 1 S 1 S 1 S 1 S 1 S 1 S 1 S 1 S		



Dawn peeks over hazel trees. I creep into the forest, pull twigs aside and behold a majestic body of water. There is a rainbow, the sun is up, and sparkling mist rises from cool transparent waters, reflecting the new day.

The sunrise
Alethia Diener, Age 8
Georaetown, TX



## Get Know



**Critters** Jase Walters, Age 6 Lampasas, TX

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	S M T W T F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 31 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 April Fool's Day	2	Good Friday 1st day of Passover	4 0
5 Easter Sunday	6 Easter Monday	7 United Nations World Health Day	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 National	20	21	22	23	24	25
Environmental Education Week		John Muir's Birthday	Earth Day		Arbor Day	
26	27	28	29	30		



Plants are green

Bark is brown

Water is blue and green

Flowers have sweet fragrance

Animals are kind

They will not hurt you unless you hurt or

scare them

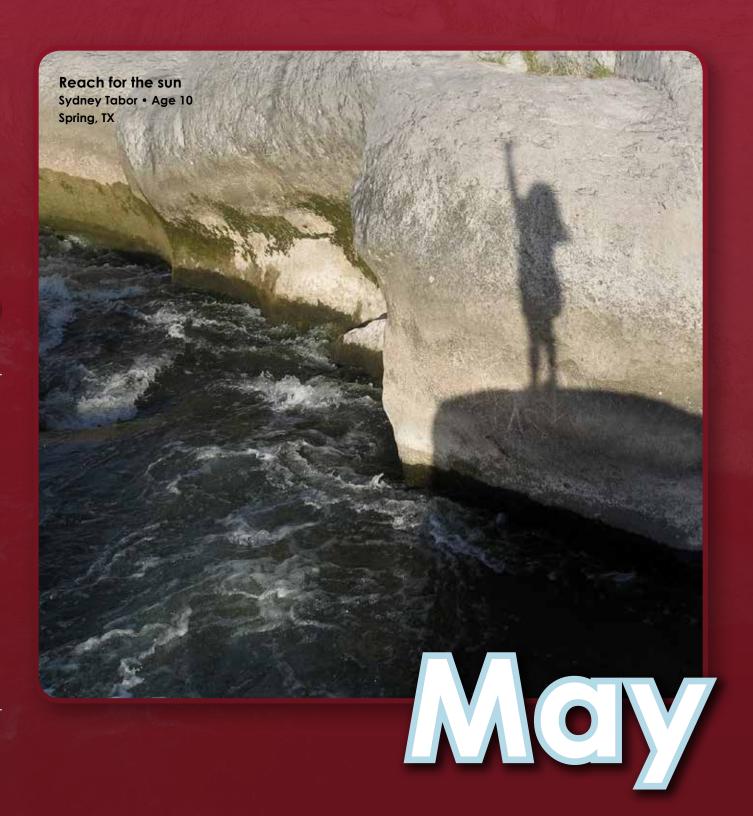
I love water

You love water

Please be kind to water

Rainbow Forest

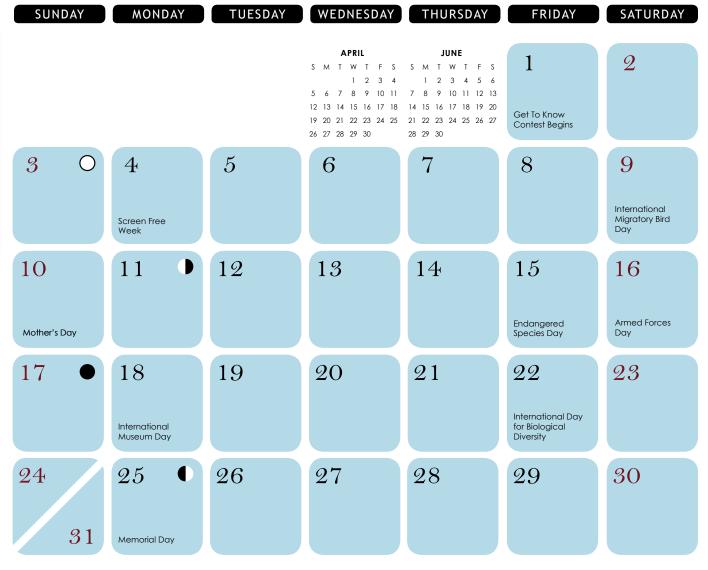
Aiyana McGarry Fairley, Age 9 Dallas, TX







**The State Herd**Nicole Birnbaum, Age 16
Giddings, TX



National Missing Children's Day



Demons, they feel you with fear,

The nature scares them away with

shame,

Of they who came,

Upon angels are woken,

They shall not be broken,

When deers are in head lights,

They shall take flight in the night

**Natural Demons** 

Sadie Dill, Age 13 Three Rivers, TX







**Cactus Flower** Thomas Birnbaum, Age 14 Giddings, TX

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 0	3	4	5 World	6
					Environment Day	National Trails Day
7	8 World Oceans Day	9	10	11	12	13  National Get Outdoors Day (GO Day)
14 Flag Day	National Pollinator Week Begins	16	17	18	19	20
Pirst Day of Summer Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26	27  Great American Backyard Campout
28	29	30		12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25		



Hiking at Inks Lake, I put my hands on the rocks and closed my eyes. It is true – you could feel the animals and people that had gone through the rocks. Like dinosaurs, cavemen, wolves, Indians, foxes, Pilgrims and more.

**Two Big Rocks** Abigail Barker, Age 10 Wills Point, TX







**Wise** Clara May Holmes, Age 8 Austin, TX

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	S M T W T S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T S S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 35 31 25 26 27 28 29	National Park and Recreation Month	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 0	

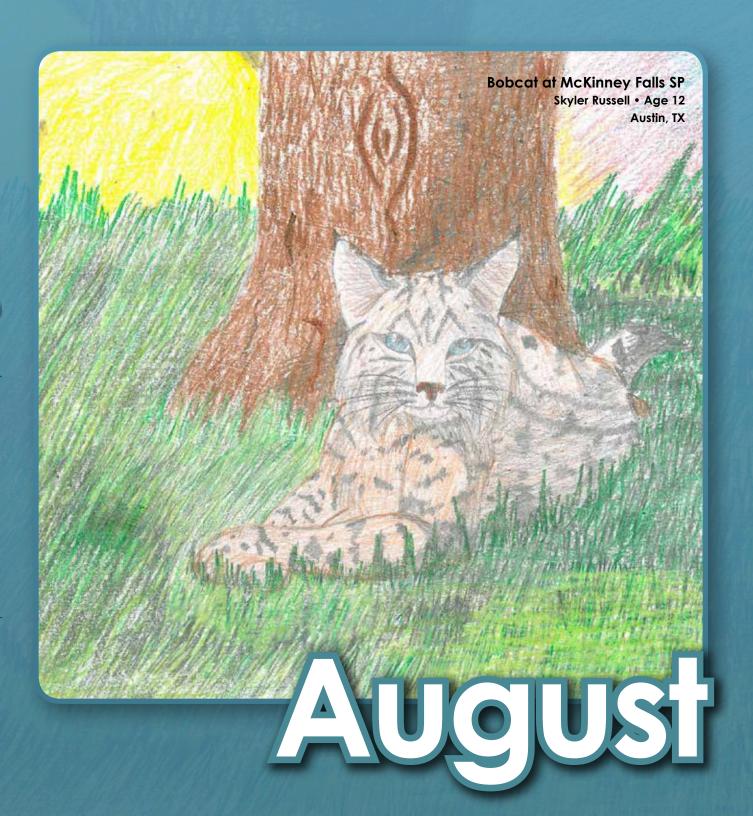


Caddo State Park, is creepy yet wonderful!

As a little boy I thought it was a little creepy with all of the moss on the trees and scary noises! But now that I'm older i think it is very beautiful!

Caddo State Park, is creepy yet wonderful!

Joseph Woods, Age 10 Jefferson, TX







**Stalking** Charlie Holmes, Age 9 Austin, TX

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	SEPTEMBER  S M T W T F S  6 7 8 9 10 11 12  13 14 15 16 17 18 19  20 21 22 23 24 25 26  27 28 29 30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Smokey Bear's Birthday	10	1 1 Grifford Pinchot's Birthday	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29 0



**Extremely high cliffs** 

A perfect view of Ink's Lake

Squirrels in the trees

Turtles near the bank

Birds flying across the sky

Bugs under the rocks

**Butterflies flutter** 

Snakes swimming through the water

Hiking up the trail

**Devil's Waterhole** 

Mykel Mclearen, Age 13 Lampasas, TX



September





**Colorful Night** Elizabeth Sandbach, Age 9 San Antonio, TX

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
Grandparents	14  Rosh Hashanah Starts	15	16 International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer	17	18	19
20	21	22	23  First Day of Autumn  Yom Kippur	24	25	26  National Public Lands Day
27 O	28	29	30	S H V W T F S 1 1 2 1 3 1 4 1 5 1 6 1 7 1 8 1 9 2 1 2 2 2 3 3 4 1 5 2 6 2 7 2 8 1 9 2 1 2 2 2 3 3 2 3 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1 2 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	



For in the true nature of things, if we rightly consider, every green tree is far more glorious than if it were made of gold and silver.

**Martin Luther** 







**The Lighthouse, Palo Duro Canyon State Park** Evan Rhinehart, Age 6 Pflugerville, TX

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		S M T W T S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 1  Earth Science Week	12 • Columbus Day	13  No Child Left Inside Day	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24  Make a Difference Day United Nations Day
25	26	27 0	28	29	30	31 Halloween



Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns.

**George Eliot** 







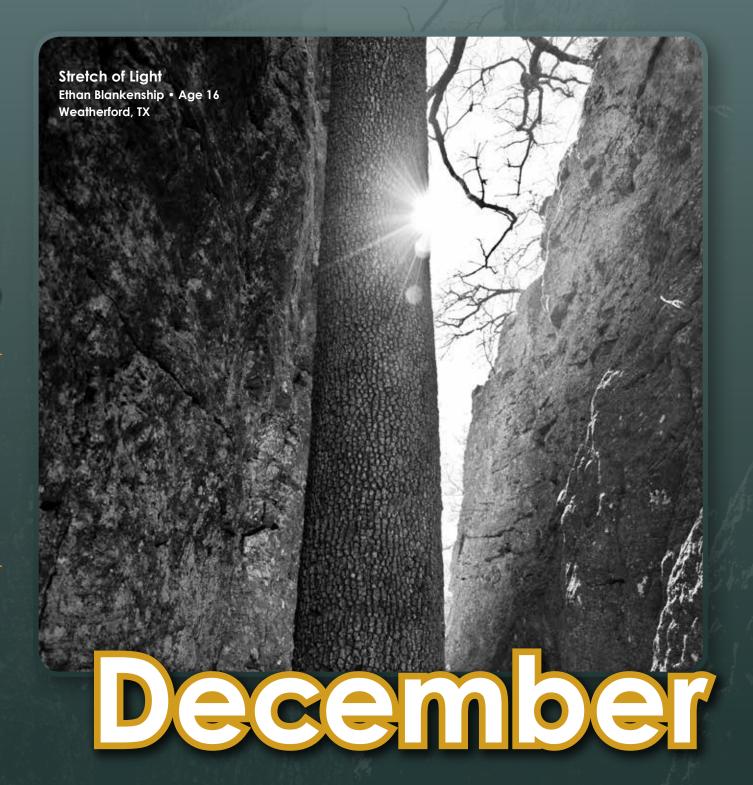
**Life Cycle of a Frog** Emily Valdez, Age 10 Bandera, TX

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Get to Know Contest ends All Saints Day Daylight Savings Time ends	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 • Veteran's Day	12	13	14
15  America Recycles Day	16	17	18	19	20	21 World Fisheries Day
22	23	24	25 0	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30		S M T W T F S A 7 8 9 10 11 12 B 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			



It is not so much for its beauty that the forest makes a claim upon men's hearts, as for that subtle something, that quality of air that emanation from old trees, that so wonderfully changes and renews a weary spirit.

**Robert Louis Stevenson** 







**Walk at Brazos Bend** Zowie Hall, Age 13 Malakoff, TX

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Hanukkah Begins	8	9	10	11 •	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 First Day of Winter	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 O	26  Boxing Day
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	S M T W T F S 3 A T W T F S 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

### 2015

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JULY

JANUARY

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19 20 21 22 23 24 25	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	26 27 28 29 30 31
20 27 20 27 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	23 20 27 20 27 30 31	20 27 20 27 30 31
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16 17 18 19 20 21 22	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	16 17 18 19 20 21 22
23 24 25 26 27 28	<sup>24</sup> <sub>31</sub> 25 26 27 28 29 30		23 24 25 26 27 28 29
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<sup>23</sup> <sub>30</sub> <sup>24</sup> <sub>31</sub> 25 26 27 28 29	28 29 30	29 30 31	27 28 29 30
30 31 23 20 27 20 27	20 27 30	27 30 31	27 20 27 30
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### STATE PARK RESOURCES FOR KIDS

### **TEXAS OUTDOOR FAMILY**

At our camping workshops, learn to set up and break down camp and a tent, start fires, cook outdoors, use a GPS and geocache. Rangers introduce you to fishing, kayaking and hiking. We provide the equipment and the experts. Find out more at www. texasstateparks.org/tof.

### RANGER-LED PROGRAMS

We lead programs on birding, plants, animal tracks, stargazing, photography and much more. Check our events calendar (www.tpwd.state. tx.us/calendar/all-events) or at park headquarters to find a program near you.

### FREE FISHING AND GO FISH!

Did you know you can fish at any state park for free? No fishing license is needed! Go Fish! programs help families learn the basics of fishing through fun, hands-on activities. For more information, visit our family fishing page: www. texasstateparks.org/freefishing.

### TEXAS GEOCACHE ("GEE-O-CASH") CHALLENGE

Geocaching is the hunt for any of more than 2 million items cached (hidden) all over the world. In the Texas Geocache Challenge, you search for caches that reveal facts and stories about Texas State Parks. Your adventure begins at www. texasstateparks.org/geocache.

### STARS OVER OUR PARKS

Texas is known for big, dark skies, making it the perfect place for stargazing. Enjoy stargazing at any state park, or check our events calendar (http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/calendar/stargazing) for events and activities.

### **BUFFALO SOLDIERS PROGRAM**

Our program teaches outdoor skills while making connections between history and culture. Texas Buffalo Soldiers deliver programs at schools, parks and community events. To learn more, visit www. texasstateparks.org/buffalosoldiers.

### ARCHEOLOGICAL, CULTURAL OR HISTORICAL TOURS

Step through the doors of historic homes and inns, or explore frontier forts. Walk along the paths where the Buffalo Soldiers served or visit the birthplace of Texas. Our tours bring history to life! Find a tour near you: http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/calendar/all-events.

### JUNIOR RANGER EXPLORER PACKS

Parents can check out a Junior Ranger Explorer Pack for their kids at many state parks. Each Explorer Pack comes with tools for exploring the great outdoors. Visit www.texasstateparks.org/juniorranger to find participating parks.

### **ARTS IN THE PARKS**

Whether you draw, paint, write, take photos, shoot videos or create music, visiting a park can stir up your creative juices. Visit our Arts in the Parks page for resources and ideas: www.texasstateparks.org/artsinparks.



The Get to Know Program has been inspiring connections between youth and nature for over a decade. Robert Bateman, internationally renowned wildlife artist, and Mary Krupa-Clark launched the program in the Province of British Columbia in 2000. Today, the program works with diverse partners across the U.S. and Canada to deliver innovative initiatives that educate, inspire, and empower the next generation to care for the planet.



This calendar features winning art, writing and photography entries created by American youth who were inspired by nature.

www.get-to-know.org

"Once young people have a passion for the environment in their art, it will stay with them forever. If we can get art and nature into the minds of young people, they can change the world."

> Wyland, Artist of the Sea



photo credit: Andrew Klaver



photo credit: Laura Bombier

"The Get to Know Contest provides a great opportunity for youth to get outdoors, get creative, and connect with nature. The connections they develop now will enrich their lives and inspire them to care for the environment for years to come. I am thrilled to be a part of the Get to Know team."

Les Stroud. Filmmaker, Outdoor Adventurer

The Get to Know Team would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who helped with this year's Get to Know Contest. Without your generous support, we would not be able to run this unique and inspiring contest for youth across the U.S.

A big congratulations goes out to all the youth who spent time outdoors and participated in this year's contest. The caliber of artwork and creativity is fantastic.

We look forward to seeing your entries in next year's contest and hope you continue to get outside, get to know nature and share your experience with us through art.

Mary Krupa-Clark Director of the Get To Know Program

